

I believe our mayor's ~~potter~~ political sophistication
is such that he fully understands tokenism
~~and how it's used and misused.~~ how

~~some~~ sometimes individuals will use tokenism
as a cloak to avoid dealing with minorities,
lesbians and gay men, and women. ~~But~~ At

But I was addressing a different issue; ~~the~~

~~the~~ underrepresentation, in particular

underrepresentation of lesbians, and lesbians

and gay men of ^{color} ~~them~~. It's simply
no longer

~~not~~ ~~longer~~ possible to overlook this aspect of
"empowerment."

My sense of identity or empowerment, as many

lesbians and lesbians and gay men of color ^{also} will tell you,

does not solely
~~has never~~ come from the generosity of ~~it~~

~~elected officials~~ of elected officials ~~give~~

giving me titles. It's a ludicrous thought.

I also know that the majority of

Feinstein appointees were not tokens as I
am ^{personally} aware of the many hours of time

~~spent~~ ~~at~~ they put in on

commissions and committees.

Lesbian visibility is a critical aspect of

lesbian identity. We formed the

Lesbian Agenda for Action ^(LAFA) to promote

lesbian visibility and to ~~advocate~~ ~~advocate~~ advocate

issues of concern to lesbians. The

creation of LAFA is in itself an act

of empowerment. When you speak

of a joint venture with Art, in

my mind, there is a "natural"

alliance between our mayor and LAFA,

~~not only~~ because ~~the~~ an overwhelming majority

of LAFA's founders and membership were Agnos

endorsers, ~~but~~ thus sharing very

similar political ideals and concerns for



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